any of the lawyers from the said panel provided the lawyer is available and willing to accept the case.

14. Circumstances entitling a party to legal aid—The circumstances under which such legal aid will be made available to a party shall be as determined by the Family Court Judge in each case.

CHAPTER V

Procedure in the Family Court

15. Filing of petitions-Every petition or application shall be accompanies by as many clear, authenticated copies thereof as there are respondents to be served and by 3 additional copies for the use of the court and by such papers as are referred to with petition or application. No court fee shall be levied for filing a petition.

(All proceedings instituted before the family court shall be by way of petition)

16. (i) Application of the Provision of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908 (Amended Act of 1976)—The provisions of Civil Procedure Code, as far as possible and, as the case may be, shall apply to the proceedings before the Family Courts.

(ii) Save as aforesaid, Chapter IX of the Criminal Procedure Code 1973 (Act No. II & 1974) shall apply in respecty of petitions filed before the Family Court.

Entrusting Court functions to private parties

1904. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to entrust certain ancillary functions of court to private parties; and

(b) if so, the details of functions to be entrusted to private parties?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Carrying out functions, including ancillary functions, of courts is within the domain of courts which work under the

control and supervision of High Courts. High Courts may consult the concerned State Government, if required. Recent amendments to the Code of Civil Procedure, provide that summons may be delivered to such courier services as are approved by the court.

Bombay High Court, as part of the Pilot Project of Computerisation and Networking of city courts in Mumbai, which is funded by the Department of Justice, Government of India, is contemplating to enlist the participation of private vendors in certain ancillary functions connected with courts. These functions are :

- Providing certified copies
- Issue of services & processes
- Making court related information available to litigant public and lawyers on video display units and internet/e-kiosks/interactive voice response system (I.V.R.S.).
- Processing of plaints, petitions etc. being field in the court.

The vendors will install their own hardware, software and other equipment. They will be responsible for maintenance of their equipment, and will be paid by the court on the basis of the actual volume of work done or services performed. Participation of private vendors is expected to bring about speed and efficiency in the delivery of services & ensure proper maintance of equipment.

Campaign for photo identity cards

1905. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched vigorous campaign to issue photo identity cards to alleligible voters in the country; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) The Election commission has informed that the programme of Electors' Photo-Identity Cards (EPICs) is being continuously monitored and reviewed in all the States. It has emphasized its endeavour to progressively use Identity Cards in future elections.